

Subject: Butterflies | Forest Permit Costs | Classic Vehicle Rego

From: 4WD NSW ACT INC <office@4wdnow.com>

Date: 10/09/2021 3:02 PM

To: <delegate.tam4wdclub@gmail.com>



Hi everyone,

There is now light at the end of this lockdown tunnel and hopefully it is not just a train coming the other way. As clubs we can look at ways to make the process as easy as possible to be Covid safe and responsible. Look at getting a QR code for trip members to be able to sign in and show their status (we will not be part of any arguments about vaccinated and non-vaccinated, the law is the law).

Remember a trip leader is a volunteer and has the final say on who goes on their trip, if someone doesn't like that, then they just don't go on trips, easy.

I attended via zoom a Ministers Advisory Council meeting this week and it was encouraging to see a push to make the Council more relevant. Some important things are happening around restructuring of parks and a great new initiative for endangered species and rewilding projects.

The only downside to the meeting was a briefing on the booking system, lots of new bells and whistles but unfortunately no policy on enforcement and when questioned on it we were informed that it would be up to the local Ranger to sort out. I see this as a recipe for confrontation and one of the reasons we spend time in the bush is to get away from this sort of worry. Also, there are no plans for groups, so I would say Parks are not presenting themselves as being a very friendly and stress-free place to go camping now. This is another example of how little they know about the people that actually visit parks.

Back to the good stuff, hopefully now the AGM in November will be a face-to-face meeting at the Liverpool Catholic Club, and we will all have stories of places that we have started to visit again.

Have Fun

Craig Thomas
President

What are the cost savings of our State Wide permit with Forest Corp?

Affiliated Clubs must notify their local Forestry Corporation of NSW (FCNSW) representative of any proposed four-wheel drive (4WD) visits, events or activities in NSW State Forest which involve:

- a) 10 or more vehicles, **OR**
- b) 50 or more participants, **OR**
- c) May considered site-intensive by nature (including training activities, inter-club events, regional events), **OR**
- d) Involve overnight stays in NSW State Forest

For a one-off activity for a non-affiliated club with less than 20 participants, you would be looking at an application fee of \$207 or \$413 depending on the intensity of the activity/impact on the environment/safety risk.

Usage fees (per vehicle) would be between \$7.50 to \$15.00 but again could vary depending on intensity of activity/impact on environment/safety risk. If the club is involved with an approved improvement/environmental project, this may reduce fees.

As driver training may be more intensive/damaging than camping and driving through the forest it would be charged at a higher rate.

Scenario #1

A group visits a State Forest for overnight camping.

No Four Wheel Driving, just drive in to camp and out again the next day.

9 vehicles (\$207 plus \$7.50 x 9)

Affiliated with 4WD NSW ACT - NO CHARGE

Not Affiliated with 4WD NSW ACT - \$274.50

18 vehicles (\$207 plus \$7.50 x 18)

Affiliated with 4WD NSW ACT - NO CHARGE

Not Affiliated with 4WD NSW ACT - \$342.00

Scenario #2

A group visits a State Forest for Driver Training.

9 vehicles (\$413 plus \$15.00 x 9)

Affiliated with 4WD NSW ACT - NO CHARGE

Not Affiliated with 4WD NSW ACT - \$548.00

18 vehicles (\$413 plus \$15.00 x 18)

Affiliated with 4WD NSW ACT - NO CHARGE

Not Affiliated with 4WD NSW ACT - \$683.00

Scenario #3

A group visits a State Forest for driver training and doesn't apply for a permit.

They think it's ok because they get on well with the Ranger and he doesn't fine them when he sees them in the Forest without a permit.

Everything is fine until someone gets hurt or a car gets damaged. The insurance Company asks for the permit and the club doesn't have one.

If you do not have the legal permit to a State Forest, you are trespassing. You can contact your insurance company for vehicle cover to confirm this.

On this subject from AON INSURANCE:

"I note that your risk management clearly states that each member is required to do the right thing and apply for permits and if this is deliberately ignored and not adhered to then the insurance policy will not respond. They do so at their own risk, and this should be clearly communicated to each member"

The Association pays an annual fee that covers all it's members. This was the reason we started with the vehicles stickers and why it is important to keep them up to date.

Your club still needs to go to the Forestry Corporation web site and scroll to the bottom of the page to the "find a" list and fill in a permit and submit it, but there will be no cost involved. This helps them manage the area and to make sure your event doesn't clash with other groups. It is also a good idea for your club to contact the office of the forests that you visit as it is a great opportunity to get to know them, we have found this to be very beneficial for everybody.

Remember to go to our website and fill in a trip report after your event, this helps Forestry to know numbers and identify any issues, usually before it becomes a problem.



4WD NSW & ACT Association
Inc - Annual state-wide permit
2021

[PDF HERE](#) Special Activity
Conditions

[PDF HERE](#) Permit



Events and activities

Forest Permits are required for some events and activities in State forests. Some forests are not available for events.

Please contact your closest [Forestry Corporation office](#) to discuss your proposed activity or event before applying for a Forest Permit.

To apply for a Forest Permit, please download and complete the following forms and submit to your local Forestry Corporation office or contact. **A minimum of four weeks is required for a full permit application to be assessed** (see forms below, and large events may require 90 days). We endeavour to facilitate all recreational pursuits however some permit applications may not be approved.

Please note that permit processing times may be further affected in areas where resources are diverted to bushfire reparation works being undertaken.

Forest Permits attract fees which are generally based on the nature, intensity and number of people involved in the activity. Some activities may be exempt from fees. Your local Forestry contact will discuss your permit fees and other requirements with you:

- [Application Form - Forest Permit \(Activity\)](#)
- [Standard Conditions - Forest Permit \(Activity\)](#)
- [Incident Report Form - Forest Permit](#)
- [Site Safety Plan Template - Forest Permit](#)
- [Medical Emergency Evacuation Plan Template - Forest Template](#)
- [Usage Report Form - Forest Permit](#)

Note: a copy of your public liability insurance will also be required. Forestry Corporation may request additional information and place conditions on your permit. (if you dont have your clubs Cert of Currency please email office@4wdnow.com

<https://www.forestrycorporation.com.au/about/permits2>

Attention all Clubs - CVS

In the last week alone I have received 3 emails from members of the public looking for a club to join, that offers Classic Vehicle Registration (CVS).

So far one in Tamworth and two from the Hunter Region. It is now necessary for your club to decide if it will offer the benefit to their members and how it will be run within your club. I have referred those people to the clubs in the area that I know will be able to assist.

We are seeing an increase in requests because there are many models starting to turn 30. Any vehicle manufactured in 1991 or earlier is eligible, regardless of the month of manufacture.

These "newbies" are initially looking for cheap rego for their 30 + year old vehicle. They may or may not become active members of your club, regardless they pay full membership fees and add no additional costs to your club.

The registered owner of the vehicle **MUST** be a member of an affiliated club to be eligible for CVS. For clubs that have not thought about doing this, there is no downside to increasing your membership with Conditionally Registered Vehicles. Contact me to discuss this in more detail or with any specific questions about the scheme.

Basically your club needs a stamp like this with its own details.



MORE INFO [HERE](#)

(This is a link to a Clever website, but these stamp are available from most print shops and Officeworks RRP \$60)

1. Your member presents the Rego papers to your club. The paperwork is stamped and that paperwork is posted by the member to the Australian Confederation of Motor Clubs (ACMC).
2. The ACMC checks with 4WD NSW ACT INC (Maggie in the office) to verify the club is affiliated with us and then they stamp the paperwork and return it to the member.
3. The member takes the forms to Services NSW to register the vehicle.

Our website has information and links to the relevant information.

CVS INFO [HERE](#)

To make it easier to find clubs that offer the scheme, can those clubs contact me and let me know you will welcome enquiries.

office@4wdnow.com

How much money is too much money?

As a member of a recreational club or a member of the committee of a club, it's likely that you buy raffle tickets, apparel, and things like that to help the club raise money to keep itself running. Everyone likes to know that there is some "rainy day" money to rely on if things go bad. Well, things have gone bad, we are in unprecedented times right now. This pandemic caught many people without a financial buffer to keep them going. I haven't heard that said about any clubs though. From what I know, all clubs have faired very well. Some are thriving. Which makes me ask the question "

How much money is too much money? "

The committee that helped steer the club, and through good management helped save up the funds have created a stable club to weather the storms ahead.

A terrific job, but the money that makes most of us feel secure can be a temptation to others. That money can make your club a target. We have seen it happen in our Association and in the National Association more recently. At least one of our clubs have been brought to it's knees and drained of its finances. I have seen clubs that cut services and benefits to members just to retain a "healthy" bank balance. " **So what is a healthy bank balance? "**

I believe that 3 years running's costs are more than enough for any club to hold in reserve. Stock piling more than that deprives todays members of the benefits of their own membership fees. The money in the bank account is for todays members to benefit from, there is no need to stock pile funds and increase the bank balance for no good reason.

Of course every club is different, and every club needs to decide for itself what upper and lower level of funds they are comfortable with. This decision should be made by the membership and not just the committee. Everyone should have a say on this very important issue. Once you decide what the levels are you can think about how to raise money to create that buffer or how to spend that money on members to reduce the risk of trouble in your clubs future.

Need a ZOOM meeting?

Do you need a zoom meeting for your club?

You are welcome to use the Association account.

Please email Maggie with date, start time and duration.

office@4wdnow.com

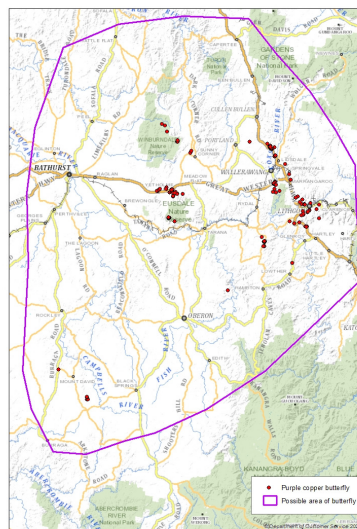
Volunteer Opportunities

Can you find a Purple Copper Butterfly?

If you live in the Central Tablelands you may see a rare iridescent treat this spring. The purple copper butterfly spreads its wings from late August to late October, and citizen scientists are needed to record sightings. "The endangered purple copper butterfly is only found with native blackthorn bush, around the Bathurst, Lithgow and Oberon areas, and above 850m elevations. They fly on fine, sunny days" said Jess Peterie, Threatened Species Officer.

"Purple coppers have beautiful iridescent metallic coloration on their backs, so in the sunlight there are flecks of purple and blue – photos really don't do it justice. It is both beautiful and special to see one flying in the wild." To read more about their unique relationship with the ants that protect them, [click here](#).

To participate, simple video instructions for downloading the Butterflies app and registering for the Counting Coppers project is available on the [Seed website](#).



Frogs are dying - we need to know why

Frogs - the barometer of our ecosystem - are dying. There has been an increase in sick, dying and dead frogs across NSW. While the first cold snap of each year can result in a few localised frog mortalities, this outbreak has impacted more animals over a greater range than previously encountered. Key agencies are working together to coordinate a response and further investigate to try to determine the cause. What signs can you look out for?

- • Lethargic (slow to move)
- • Skin discolouration (lighter or darker than normal)
- • Thin (emaciated)
- • Red bellies, red feet and excessive sloughed skin



What should you do?

If you come across sick or dying frogs, please contact Karrie Rose from the Australian Registry of Wildlife Health (via call or text on 0402 553 537) immediately. They are gathering samples from sick frogs or frogs that have died within 24 hours for diagnostic testing.

If you come across dead frogs, please report and [email photos](#) to the Australian Museum. Their [FrogID project](#) is managing reports of dead frogs.

Best practice biosecurity measures are recommended if you come into contact with frogs. You can read [more here](#) about some theories and what else you can do.



Most First Aid Courses have been rescheduled because of lockdowns.
As a result some people have cancelled so there are a couple of spaces available.

Watson ACT Basic - New Date - August 6-7 August 2022 - (1 available)

Watson ACT Remote - New Date - August 13-14 August 2022 - (1 available)

Sydney Remote - Blacktown RSL - New Date - 6-7 November - (4 available)

Hunter Basic - Beresfield Bowling Club - postponed - (spaces available)

Southern Region - date to be confirmed

benefits.4wdnow.com



MEDIA RELEASE

Club 4X4 and 4WD NSW & ACT Association

announce strategic Partnership

Believe it or not - we are having an insurance issue with this!. There is a delay, but we are looking for a solution. Watch this space.

This newsletter is written using information provided by relevant parties.

If I write something that mentions "me or I" and there is no signature after it then it is a message from me.

If you would like something to be added on behalf of your club please email office@4wdnow.com.

Anything can be included as long as it's club based and for the benefit of clubs.

The newsletter is monthly (about the first of each month) but we can do an extra "special" if there is something that is important that we missed.

- Maggie Thomas.

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